

A COUNTRY HOUSE NEED NOT

THIS WOMAN A PRACTICE PLAY-
ER OF BRIDGE WHIST.

Her Duty Is to Teach the Game to Poor
Players Without Their Knowing It.
—Matrimonial Complications Good
—Field Created by Modern Custom.

"My reward as a practice player of
bridge whist in the summer months
is \$50 and my board," said a woman
much in demand at country houses. "To
outsiders I am an invited guest."

"All my time is engaged, sometimes as
much as a year ahead. This summer I
am to divide my time between three
houses. At each house there is to be
a succession of house parties, and as you
know bridge whist is the main dependence
of all house parties these days. Besides keep-
ing my employer, or as outsiders say, my
hostess, in practice by playing with her
any hour when she can spare the time,
I have to teach the guests who do not play
sufficiently well to make them desirable
partners."

"Under no circumstances do I allow
these poor players to guess that I am paid
for the interest I take in their game. In
every house I go to I am known as a bridge
fiend. I have often overheard young
people warn each other against me. They
declare that if ever I lay my hands on any
one it is impossible to get away until my
victim has paid the toll of one or more
games of bridge."

"These young things little guess that I
am following out instructions from their
hostess, who pays me what I have to admit
is a generous salary, gives me one of the
best rooms in her house, supplies me with
the services of a maid and altogether
treats me as among her most desirable
guests."

"Of course I have had to work for all
this. When I first began to earn a living
bridge was just coming into fashion and
teaching women was a real pleasure to
me. Indeed it was so pleasant that I
decided to learn something else by which
I could be able to earn money when the
crave for bridge wore off."

"I took up stenography and brushed
up both my French and German. I have
had use for both languages in my bridge
playing, which I am now beginning to
look upon as my life work, for the reason
that instead of becoming less popular
the number of its devotees is always on
the increase."

"My day begins generally at 8 A. M.
when I am at a country house. After
taking my breakfast in my room I go to
my hostess, who is usually taking her
tea at that time. While she nibbles her toast
and sips her coffee we discuss plans for
the day."

"Any guest who does not play a good
game is delivered into my hands. I am
supposed to find ways and means of
teaching him to play. I have been known
to take him to the library and there, under
the pretext of looking up a book, to
teach him the game. Sometimes I am
instructed to take him to the grounds
and far enough away from the house
for the others to get off on a drive
or a morning's picnic unseen."

"Of course, once this is accomplished,
it is an easy matter to get the victim to
finish the morning playing bridge with me.
At least it is generally easy, but on one
or two occasions the plan has not worked
out well."

"One of these failures was a girl with
whom the son of the hostess was in love.
She played an atrocious game of bridge
and was candid enough to admit that she
detested cards. The hostess was willing
enough for the match to take place, but
she felt that the girl could never be a
social success unless she learned more
about the fashionable game. I was in-
structed to take her for a walk to the
chapel just at the time it had been planned
for the others to start off on an all day
picnic."

"It was easy enough for me to induce
the girl to go for the walk, but when we
found the house practically empty on our
return she refused to be comforted
by playing cards. She finally got me in a
position where I was forced to tell her of
the plot and the object of her hostess."

"After questioning her down to the last
detail she said that so long as she re-
mained in the house she would not touch
a card, and furthermore she didn't in-
tend that the young man should either.
She kept her word to such extent that
after they were married her husband gave
up cards entirely and now refuses to
visit his mother's house when bridge is
to be played."

"Another of my failures was a young
man who became so enraged when he
found that he had missed getting off on
a morning drive that he went to his
room and asked for the rest of the day.
He never allowed me to come within
speaking distance of him afterward and I
learned that he said he was sure that if he
had I would have refused to help him."

"Oh, that is an everyday occurrence.
Almost every man I am called on to take
in hand thinks I have fallen madly in
love with him, and sometimes it is very
nearly indeed. Last summer a young man
from the West, an elderly man, consulted
with his hostess about how he should treat
me."

"He confided to her that he had decided
never to marry, that though he ad-
mired me very much he didn't feel that
he could break his vow of celibacy. He
suggested that it might be kind for her
to take the matter in hand and let me
know that he was not a marrying man."

"Fortunately my hostess was also my
friend and straightened matters out by
telling him the true state of affairs. After
explaining him of my position she explained
that it was at her special request that
I had been so urgent in my requests for
his company."

"It was such a shock to his vanity that
it took him days to recover his reason-
ed poise. Then he had the good
sense to take advantage of my services,
with the result that he now plays a capital
game and assures me that he has ten
invitations to every one he has had here."

"I don't know that I seriously object
to the older men fancying me in love
with them, but when it comes to boys
almost young enough to be my sons it is
somewhat humiliating. One of these gen-
tlemen assured me after discovering that I
was only trying to make him less of a
nuisance in the cardroom that he had
made only a natural mistake, since every
young and young married woman of
his acquaintance was running after him
or some other young fellow. He explained
that it was an easy matter to escape an
unmarried girl because she has no
learned how to chase a fellow, but
when it came to widows and married
women—here he shook his head as
though it was quite impossible to express
their preference."

"I do not look upon my work in the
country house as unnecessary. Indeed
I am beginning to feel that I am about
as indispensable as the butler or the
housekeeper to the happiness and com-
fort of all concerned."

"When a woman invites a lot of people
to her house she is in duty bound to keep
them amused. The time is just when a
good cook and a well supplied wine cellar
are all that is expected. Even under the
best of conditions it is impossible to keep
the guests out of doors the whole time.
Bridge being the fashionable game
nine persons out of every ten plays a fair
game, while only about one out of every
twenty either knows nothing of the game
or so little that you wish he knew less.
Only a good card player knows how im-
possible it is to enjoy a game with a poor
player in the party."

"When there is such a card player at
a house party there are but three courses,
for the others to grin and bear his mis-

COLLARLESS GOWNS APPEAL

FEW WOMEN CAN RESIST THE
DUTCH NECK'S CHARM.

New Modes Are Likely to Lay Away With
the Lean and Hipless Figure. Says a
Designer—The Fashion a Return to the
Gowns That Our Grandmothers Wore.

"If there is one thing more than another
that will kill the craze for leanness and
hasten the return of hips it is the collar-
less gown," said a well known designer.
"A throat to be beautiful must at least be
well nourished, which it cannot be when
the body is half starved. There used to be
an artistic cut, a sort of 'greenery' in

what sort of throat they have to dis-
close to the public. The undeniable coolness
and comfort of the fashion is always the
excuse, but their secret thoughts are
given up to vain imaginings of becoming-
ness. The collarless bodice has a pecu-
liarly sweet girlish and quaint air
which wheedles all the common as 'out
of them and it's funny to see a woman
with bared throat putting on pretty airs.
Demureness and gentility are the suitable
things and she produces them from some
inherited store."

"You know how all old ladies will tell
you that they never had a high necked
dress on until they were twenty-five or
more. They had all sorts of embroidered
muslin fichus and capes to mitigate the
hardness of their low cut gowns; not I
am sure because they were cold or because
the exposure of bare neck was thought to
be in any way immodest. Please note that
these were also the days of straight
breasted skirts, gathered all around the
hips and worn over seven or eight petti-
coats."

"A financier famous for his dash and
decision has a pet story to tell of his
adventure with one of those bare necks
when he was a very small boy. He had
a maiden aunt who disapproved very
much of the way her sister's children
were brought up. Aunt Louisa often re-
proved his mother and told her that her
children had very bad manners, were
overindulged and sadly needed spanking.
Aunt Louisa used often to say in their
presence, 'Mehabell, if those children
were mine they would get at least two
spankings a day and sometimes three,
and they'd be better children.'

"Naturally the youngsters respected
but did not love their maiden aunt, and
one day the little boy came into the
sitting room where his mother and aunt
were sitting sewing, with their backs to
the door. In his hand he carried a piece
of shingle, and suddenly a desperately
delightful notion came to him what a
smack that shingle would make if it was
brought down swiftly on the pink plump
expanse of his aunt's bare neck. Without
an instant's hesitation the shingle fell
with a smart slap."

"There was a screech and a wild patter
of small feet, but the little boy got one
of the spankings that were coming to him
before he reached the door."

"The collarless frocks unquestionably
have an old time look, for they're not
merely collarless, mind you, but are
fast becoming half décolleté in either
the square or V shape. In Paris daytime
frocks are worn amazingly low, and I
saw a charming woman in the Grand
Central Station the other day on her way
to the train wearing a gown very much
open at the neck. She was distinctly
wearing the stamp of refinement and good
taste. She had on a gown of dull velvet
piped with one of those small cappy
hats of the same color. The waist of the



"THERE WAS A SMART SLAP."

gown was crossed surplus fashion and
inside was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

"I am sure, though, that there are more
kinds of necks now than there were in
grandmother's day. Apparently there
was only one kind, the champagne
bottle neck; but in these latter days
the first crop of Dutch necked waists
has revealed scrawny throats and throats
that were rows of double chins, short
necks and serpentine necks, slender
necks and thin, sturdy and childish
necks, anatomical and peasant necks,
athletic and soulful necks. Early Victorian,
Michelangelo, Rossetti, Leighton, Bot-
telli and Rubens necks and necks of the
early Dutch school, but most interesting
of all is the revelation of the woman with
the weatherbeaten, lined face whose
throat is as firm, round and white as a
girl's."

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

SHE CLOTHES THE ELDERLY

A SOUTHERN WOMAN'S IDEA
FOR A SPECIALTY SHOP.

All Ages Provided For, She Found, Except
the Women of 60 or 65—An Education
in Dressmaking Began in the South.
Continued Here and Ended in Paris.

"We have managed to get several
thousand dollars invested since we
opened our specialty shop for elderly
women's costumes four years ago," a
young woman who is at the head of a
dressmaking establishment in a Southern
city told the reporter when asked to give
some of the details of her work. "They
said at the start that we would fail because
no woman cared to acknowledge that she
was elderly. That may be a fact, though
we haven't yet found it keeping customers
from us."

"I am responsible for the specialty.
I had been working in the dressmak-
ing business for more than ten years
when I decided the time had come for me
to get out and found a business of my own.
Beginning as errand girl, I had worked
up to fitter and then to manager, next in
authority to the head of the establishment."

"After making up my mind to work for
myself, the next question was to get a
partner, and I had to come to New York
to do that. My first reason for coming
here was to see how the dressmaking busi-
ness was conducted."

"Though I had not intended to remain
more than a few weeks, before the end of
the first week I had determined to get a
place in some fashionable shop and stay
at least one season to get experience."

"After working in a shop for two sea-
sons I determined to go abroad and man-
aged to get my expenses for a three
weeks trip to Paris paid by going as assist-
ant to the buyer of the house. At the end
of that three weeks I had made up my
mind to spend a whole year in Paris."

"Having learned the New York methods
I wanted to be as well informed in those
of the Paris dressmakers. After a hunt
of ten days I was able to get employment
in a dressmaking establishment at one-
third the wages I had received in New
York and about half what I had received
in the South."

"The first thing I had to learn was
French economy in the way of living.
Other women appeared to live and dress
themselves on what I was being paid,
and I determined to do so also."

"To accomplish this I left the boarding
place where I had been living and took
a room along with several women em-
ployed in the same establishment. In the
South we have a saying about skinning
a flea for his hide and tallow. Well, I
learned to do that while living with
those French dressmakers."

"Though we lived very well both as to
food and clothes we had a small amount
to lay by at the end of each month and
had money enough to go to the opera
and theatres. All our buying of food was
done together for the sake of greater
saving."

"When I tell you that I never saw those
women throw so much as an eggshell
away you will understand how careful
they were with the least morsel. The most
delicious dishes those French dressmakers
concocted were from scraps of food that
we in this country would have thrown
away."

"Their economy in household matters was
only a sample of the way things were
managed in each department of that dress-
making establishment. Never a scrap of
anything but what was put to use and
always to the betterment of the garment
on which it was employed, never a moment
of our time that we were allowed to sit
idle. It was like living in a new world
of economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

"I had thought it was impossible for
people to turn out more work than the
dressmaking establishment where I had
worked in New York, and often I used to
compare the way they worked with the
way we did it in the South. In my mind
I was like a child in a new world of
economy, and on the whole, after becom-
ing accustomed to it, I found it pleasant
as well as instructive."

THE COMING FASHION.



THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

"I am sure, though, that there are more
kinds of necks now than there were in
grandmother's day. Apparently there
was only one kind, the champagne
bottle neck; but in these latter days
the first crop of Dutch necked waists
has revealed scrawny throats and throats
that were rows of double chins, short
necks and serpentine necks, slender
necks and thin, sturdy and childish
necks, anatomical and peasant necks,
athletic and soulful necks. Early Victorian,
Michelangelo, Rossetti, Leighton, Bot-
telli and Rubens necks and necks of the
early Dutch school, but most interesting
of all is the revelation of the woman with
the weatherbeaten, lined face whose
throat is as firm, round and white as a
girl's."

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

gown was a soft, frilly white shirt, which
fell away from the throat in a V shaped
opening. Over her arm she carried a
gray traveling cloak, and if you were
shocked at a practically low necked gown
on a journey you had but to reflect that
your sainted grandmother did the same
thing once upon a time."

THE COMING FASHION.

</